

U.S.S.N. 09/590,985

Filed: June 9, 2000

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

## In the Claims

1. (twice amended) A method for making a proton conducting polymeric membrane, comprising

dissolving a polymer in an organic solvent to form a polymer solution;

adding an oxyacid to the polymer solution;

casting the oxyacid-containing polymer solution onto a casting surface; and

removing the organic solvent [slowly] so as to form a [uniform] proton conducting polymeric membrane,

wherein the oxyacid is a molecular acid.

12. (amended) A proton conducting polymeric membrane made by a method comprising dissolving a polymer in an organic solvent to form a polymer solution; adding an oxyacid to the polymer solution; casting the oxyacid-containing polymer solution onto a casting surface; and removing the organic solvent [slowly] so as to form a [uniform] proton conducting polymeric membrane,

wherein the oxyacid is a molecular acid.

13. (amended) A fuel cell comprising a proton conducting polymeric membrane made by a method comprising

dissolving a polymer in an organic solvent to form a polymer solution;

adding an oxyacid to the polymer solution;

casting the oxyacid-containing polymer solution onto a casting surface; and

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removing the organic solvent [slowly] so as to form a [uniform] proton conducting  
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wherein the oxyacid is a molecular acid.